

TAKU RIVER DRAINAGE

NAKINA RIVER Peak Spawning: August 4
 Survey Dates: August 1-7

General Description of Chinook Spawning

In years of good escapement several hundred chinook salmon can be observed from the junction of the Sloko and Nakina Rivers upstream to Grizzly Bar a distance of about 5.5 miles. This area is not surveyed because of the few chinook present.

Survey Area I

50 meters below Grizzly Bar (sport cabins and tent frames on Bar) to the heavy rapids and small gorge 2.4 kilometers upstream.

The area from 50 meters below Grizzly Bar upstream for about 650 meters is always well seeded, while the area above, to the small gorge, is only well utilized during years of good escapement.

Survey Area II

From the heavy rapids and small gorge upriver to the weir.

This Area has never been well utilized (except from old chopper pad to weir) however, increasing use has been observed in years of good escapements.

Survey Area III

Weir to major gorge 3.2 km upstream. This is an excellent spawning area with largest spawning concentration just below the gorge.

Survey Area IV

Gorge to barrier approximately 1.5 miles below Telegraph Trail Crossing. In years of large escapements or high water significant numbers of chinook salmon spawn in this area. Survey light - windy, narrow canyon.

Example:

	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980
50 meters below Grizzly to 2 miles up	590	1,600	790	992	260	1,190	3,000	2,200
2 miles up to weir	260	418	430	280	77	153	460	300
weir to canyon	1,580	1,200	859	615	631	1,130	1,350	2,000
in canyon	476	650	568	NS	NS		300	

NS = Not Surveyed

Caution: Sockeye and pink salmon in survey area. Jet fuel - 4 drums of Jet A-50 are at large fuel cache on Windy Lake about 4 miles southeast of Nakina weir. Make sure you use only Jet fuel as aviation gasoline is also there from 12E days.

NAHLIN RIVER Peak Spawning: July 24
Survey Dates: July 22-28

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Spawning occurs earliest in headwaters above Beaver Dam Valley. Chinook do spawn above and below the survey areas but not in large numbers.

Survey Area I

Nahlin Crossing (outlet of Tedideech Creek) upriver to Beaver Dam Valley (start of slow moving water, three large rocks in river (staked in August 1987, 50 meters downriver of this area).

From Nahlin Crossing to the junction of Kawdy Creek chinook salmon spawning is sparse, usually less than several hundred. From the junction of Kawdy Creek upriver to the slow moving water and 3 large rocks in the river, dense spawning occurs in years of large escapements.

Survey Area II

Large rock in river at beginning of slow moving water (Beaver Dam Valley) upriver for about 13 kilometers to faster moving water. Stakes were placed on both ends in August 1987. This area is very difficult to survey, except on bright sunny days, because of deep, dark water and many meanders.

Survey Area III

Beginning of faster moving and shallower water upriver for about 8 kilometers to the area where the river forks, up each fork about 1 mile. Both ending points staked 8/87. Highest percentage of spawning occurs in this area.

Caution: In some years as many sockeye are present as chinook salmon. Fuel cache for this area is located at Long Lake about 7 miles east of Tedideech Lake. Make sure you use only Jet fuel as aviation gasoline is also at cache. 2 drums Jet A-50 - U.S. 4 Drums Canadian JP4 - orange drums.

TATSAMENIE LAKE Peak Spawning: August 23
Survey Dates: August 20-26

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Latest spawning in Taku River drainage. Sometimes semi-glacial. Survey by 10 a.m. to avoid glacial melt. Chinook spawn above Survey Area II but not in large numbers (best spawning in outlet of Big Tatsamenie Lake).

Survey Area I

Tatsatua River junction to Little Tatsamenie Lake. Largest concentration of spawning chinook opposite meadow about 200 yards above Tatsatua Junction.

Survey Area II

Inlet stream to Little Tatsamenie Lake to junction of the two forks.

Caution: Sockeye in area. Refuel for Tatsamenie Lake area is King Salmon Lake or King Salmon flats on way back to Juneau. K.S. Lake 2 drums Jet A-50. K.S. Flats - 1 drum Jet A-50.

DUDIDONTU RIVER Peak Spawning: August 2
Survey Dates: July 30-August 4

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Spawning well distributed over large area.

Survey Area

End of Canyon upstream to approximately 10 miles past junction with Matsatu Creek. In some years lower Matsatu Creek has enough water to support chinook. Survey lower 1.6 km of this tributary. Survey upper end of index area at 30-40 miles per hour, slowing down when concentrations of spawning fish are observed. Refuel at Long Lake near Nahlin River.

TSETA CREEK Peak Spawning: July 29
Survey Dates: July 28-August 2

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Most dense spawning occurs for two miles below barrier falls. Spawning scattered in rest of index area. Most of river surveyed at 20-30 mile per hour, regular survey speed at upper end where fish concentrated.

Survey Area

From Barrier Falls downriver to start of canyon. Refuel - Long Lake, K.S. Lake or Windy Lake.

KOWATUA RIVER Peak Spawning: August 20
Survey Dates: August 18-24

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Late spawning chinook salmon run just slightly earlier than Tatsamenie Lake run. Spawning does occur below index area, but not in large numbers.

Survey Area

Little Trapper Lake outlet to junction of small glacial stream that flows into the Kowatua River from the south about 8 km below Little Trapper Lake.

Caution: Sockeye in survey area. Refuel for Kowatua River is King Salmon Lake or Kings Salmon flats on way back to Juneau.

STIKINE RIVER DRAINAGE

LITTLE TAHLTAN RIVER Peak Spawning: August 3
Survey Dates: August 1-6

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Spawning is most intense from Clay Corner (high mud bank with springs in hillside that usually causes fairly poor visibility downriver of this area) upriver to confluence with Saloon Lake outlet stream. In years of large escapements spawning continues in a uniformly high density above this area. Some spawning does occur above index area.

Survey Area

From junction with mainstem Tahltan upriver for about 18km to area approximately 2 km above 2500 ft contour interval on topographic map. Area was staked and flagged 8/87.

Refuel - Saloon Lake - 1 drum Jet A-50.

MAINSTEM TAHLTAN RIVER Peak Spawning: August 8
Survey Dates: August 5-10

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Most concentrated spawning occurs below confluence with Little Tahltan River and for one mile above confluence with Beatty Creek. Chinook salmon spawn above index area, but not in large numbers.

Survey Area

From Canyon 1.5 km above confluence with Little Tahltan River downriver to junction with Stikine. Survey in early morning because very glacial - best to survey after several cold nights.

Refuel - Saloon Lake - 1 drum Jet A-50.

ANDREW CREEK Peak Spawning: August 15
Survey Dates: August 12-17

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Spawning fairly evenly distributed. Count schooled chinook in slough below Andrew Creek. Count excludes North Fork.

Survey Area

Andrew Slough to barrier

Caution: Pinks, chums, and sockeye present. Refuel Wrangell!

BEATTY CREEK Peak Spawning: August 2
Survey Dates: July 31-August 4

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Uniform spawning in survey area - chinook spawn for 15 km above survey area in small numbers.

Survey Area

From junction with Tahltan River upstream through first canyon (approximately 4 km).

Caution: Narrow, windy canyon - survey light. Jet fuel for surveys in this area is at the north end of Saloon Lake.

ALSEK RIVER DRAINAGE

TAKHANNE RIVER

Peak Spawning: August 1

Survey Dates: July 30 - August 3

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Most concentrated in lower end. Survey after Blanchard about 10:30 a.m. can be very windy in p.m. so survey in a.m. tight area - survey light.

Survey Area

Junction with Tat upriver to waterfall, tight, windy area, survey light.

Caution: A few sockeye in area. tight, windy area, survey light at 10:30 a.m. Refuel - Blanchard River - 2+ drums Jet A-50.

KLUKSHU RIVER

Peak Spawning: August 1

Survey Dates: July 30 - August 3

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Little spawning in lower 3 miles and meander area further upriver - survey these areas at higher speed. Difficult survey stream because of overhanging trees so survey rest of area at low speed.

Survey Area

Weir upriver to Klukshu Lake.

Caution: Many sockeye in survey area. Area very windy in p.m. so don't stop for lunch or waste time - survey the Alsek area as rapidly as possible and be finished as early as possible. Refuel - Blanchard River - 2+ drums Jet A-50.

GOAT CREEK

Peak Spawning: August 1

Survey Dates: July 30 - August 3

Survey Area

Just above road bridge at beginning of canyon downriver to glacial water.

Caution: Sockeye in survey area.

BLANCHARD RIVER

Peak Spawning: August 1

Survey Dates: July 30 - August 3

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Most concentrated spawning occurs below bridge to Junction with Tat. Survey in early a.m. because of glacial melt (by 9 a.m.).

Survey Area I

Bridge downriver to junction with Tat. Dense spawning in this area so survey at slow speed.

Survey Area II

Bridge upriver to Blanchard Lake spawning scattered and mostly just below Lake. Survey at 30 mph slowing down when concentrations of fish occur and at outlet of Blanchard Lake.

Caution: Sockeye spawning in upper area, near lake, at same time as chinook spawning. Fuel cache is located on north side of bridge about 1/3 mile above road in muskeg - 2+ Jet fuel and aviation gasoline.

UNUK RIVER DRAINAGE

CRIPPLE CREEK Peak Spawning: August 6
 Survey Dates: August 4-9

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Most intensive spawning occurs in long straight stretch about ½ mile upstream from confluence with glacial water. Many brown bears in area. Because of overhanging trees this stream should be surveyed by foot - semi-glacial.

Survey Area

From confluence with glacial Unuk upriver to top of area of very extensive braiding.

Caution: Many chums and some pinks in survey area. Very Beary!! Unuk River fuel at Unuk River post 2+ Jet A-50.

GENES LAKE CREEK Peak Spawning: August 27
 Survey Dates: August 15-21

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Because of overhanging trees should be surveyed by foot. Spawning very protracted in this stream. Because of clear holding holes should be surveyed before peak spawning for best count.

Survey Area

Lake Inlet mouth to small, lake outlet about 5 miles upstream.

Caution: Many brown bears in area! Sockeye also in area.

EULACHON CREEK

Peak Spawning: August 18
Survey Dates: August 14-21

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Chinook hold in large numbers in the first two large holds below the west fork. Heaviest spawning occurs just below and in west fork. East Fork gets fair numbers in years of high water.

Survey Area

Confluence with Unuk to barriers

Caution: Pinks and chums in survey area, beary.

CLEAR CREEK

Peak Spawning: August 10
Survey Dates: August 7-14

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Uniform spawning above confluence with Lake Creek. Chinook hold at mouth and in small narrow canyon 1/3 mile upstream. Spawning was protracted in 1986 but usually complete by 8/21.

Survey Area

Mouth to 1/4 mile above canyon at barrier falls.

Caution: Pinks, chums, and sockeye present, beary.

LAKE CREEK

Peak Spawning: August 10
Survey Dates: August 7-14

Survey Area

Confluence with Clear Creek to Falls - spawning on shallow rifles and in falls pool.

Caution: Pinks and chums present.

KERR CREEK

Peak Spawning: August 10
Survey Dates: August 7-14

Survey Area

Falls to glacial water - falls pool usually has 10-20 spawning chinook. Spawning has been observed downriver for about 1/2 mile, but usually glacial.

Caution: Pinks and chums present.

CHICKAMIN RIVER DRAINAGE

SOUTH FORK Peak Spawning: August 18
(mainstem spawning) Survey Dates: August 14-21

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Mainstem spawning - survey early in day (first stream of day) glacial

Survey Area

From junction of Chickamin branch upriver to junction of Barrier Creek

Caution: Many pinks and chums in survey area. Chickamin River fuel at mouth - 2+ drums Jet A-50.

BARRIER CREEK Peak Spawning: August 12
(Grizzly Creek) Survey Dates: August 7-14

General Description of Chinook Spawning

From junction of South Fork to barrier 1.6 km upstream - include both forks.

Caution: Pinks and chums in survey area.

INDIAN CREEK Peak Spawning: August 10
 Survey Dates: August 7-14

General Description of Chinook Spawning

From junction with main Chickamin branch upstream to barrier, about 2.5 miles. Spawning evenly distributed.

Caution: Pinks and chums in area.

LEDUC CREEK Peak Spawning: August 10
 Survey Dates: August 7-14

Mouth to barrier.

Caution: Pinks and chums in area.

CLEAR FALLS Peak Spawning: August 10
 Survey Dates: August 7-14

Mouth to falls.

Caution: Pinks and chums in area.

BUTLER CREEK Peak Spawning: August 10
 Survey Dates: August 7-14
Mouth to falls.

Caution: Pinks and chums in area.

KING CREEK Peak Spawning: September 1
 Survey Dates: August 21-28

General Description of Chinook Spawning

Spawning occurs far upriver - school in holes and easiest to enumerate there before spawning.

Survey Area

Mouth to barrier

Caution: Many pinks and chums present.

HUMPY CREEK Peak Spawning: September 1
 Survey Dates: August 29 - September 3

Survey Area

Mouth upriver for approximately 2.5 miles to forks, up each fork 1/8 mile.

CHILKAT RIVER DRAINAGE

BIG BOULDER Peak Spawning: August 13
 Survey Dates: August 10-16

Mouth to bridge - walk
Bridge to piling in river - chopper (about 1.5 miles). Refuel - Haines airport.

STONEHOUSE Peak Spawning: August 13
 Survey Dates: August 10-16

Mouth to barrier, spawning evenly distributed. Refuel at Haines airport.

BLOSSOM RIVER DRAINAGE

BLOSSOM

Peak Spawning: August 28
Survey Dates: August 21-28

Spawning very protracted - many schooled fish will be observed. Mouth to obvious barrier - spawning occurs from mouth to far upriver, a bit higher percentage spawn in headwaters - caution many pinks, chums, and coho, refuel at U.S. Borax site.

KETA RIVER DRAINAGE

KETA

Peak Spawning: August 21
Survey Dates: August 18-23

Spawning protracted, spawning occurs from mouth to far upriver - a bit higher percentage in headwaters. Keep separate counts above and below Hill Creek.

Caution: Many pinks and chums in survey area. Refuel U.S. Borax site.

KING SALMON RIVER

KING SALMON RIVER

Peak Spawning: July 28
Survey Dates: July 27-August 1st
July 23-

Mouth to barrier falls

Caution: Many pinks and chums in survey area.